Practices of Model ASEAN Conference in Increasing Student’s Knowledge on ASEAN Community 2015 At Senior High School of 5 Makassar and Senior High School of 1 Maros

Seniwati, Darwis, Patrice Lumumba, Aspiannor Masrie, Pusparida Syahdan, Burhanuddin, Nur Isdah

INTRODUCTION

ASEAN or Association of Southeast Asian Nations was established on August 8, 1967 in Bangkok, Thailand with signing the Bangkok Declaration. This declaration adopted at the 1st ASEAN Ministerial Meeting by the Foreign Affairs Ministers of Indonesia, the Deputy Prime of Malaysia, the Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Singapore and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand [2]. This declaration is a clear manifestation of five ASEAN countries economically, socially, and culturally.

The declaration has seven aims namely, 1) promoting economic, social and cultural development in this area, 2) keeping the peace and stability in the region, 3) Collaboration each other to create or produce something, 4) Assistance is provided by ASEAN to each other, 5) The utilization of resource and international trade are developed by ASEAN members through collaboration each other, 6) The Southeast Asian studies is promoted by ASEAN members, and 7) ASEAN agrees to collaborate with the other international organizations [2]. This declaration focuses on agriculture, forestry, energy, environment, socio-economic collaboration and cooperation both intra and inter-regionally. The declaration is the cornerstone of ASEAN to maintain peace and stability in this region.

The organization has ten member countries such as Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. The original member consists of five countries, namely Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand. In 1984,.....
Brunei joined this organization. In 1995, Vietnam became member state. In 1997, there were two countries Laos and Myanmar joined the member. In 1999, Cambodia became the ASEAN member countries [3]. The organization has a remarkable regional cooperative strength not only in maintaining peace and stability in their region but also in economic integration among member countries.

Research Method:

50 students from Senior High School of 5 Makassar and 100 students from Senior High School of 1 Maros attended the Model ASEAN Conference (MAC) 2014. The MAC is a simulation of an actual ASEAN conference. ASEAN has ten countries namely Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippine, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. Students played a major role in discussing ASEAN Community 2015. The aim of this programme such as, students sharpened their public speaking skills, the knowledge of students on issues affecting ASEAN especially ASEAN Community 2015 is getting better, and this programme is to educate students about an International matter for debate. Students were divided into 10 countries that focused on ASEAN Community issue. These countries included those of political, economic, and social culture issues. The MAC students had the opportunity to interact and shared on different worldviews with the other students who are youth leaders from other classes.

The students spent the next 3 days debating issues and coming up with the resolutions for their respective committees. Together they worked to prepare diagrams, flipchart, and exhibition booths. They also prepared for the finale to present their ideas to several lectures from Hasanuddin University who gave them this issue. They all enjoyed themselves at the programme because they got knowledge about ASEAN Community 2015. This programme to promote international friendship between ASEAN countries where were showed by students from the various classes.

ASEAN Integration: Making of ASEAN Community:

The leaders of original five ASEAN countries namely Lee Kuan Yew from Singapore, Ferdinand Marcos from the Philippines, Hussein Onn from Malaysia, Kukrit Pramoj from Thailand, Suharto from Indonesia signed a treaty called the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) at Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia on February 24, 1976. This treaty became a foundation of the ASEAN Way [4]. Then, the end of the Cold War, ASEAN had an agenda in incorporating economic, societal, and environmental aspects [8]. Nevertheless, in general, the end of the Cold War related to military and political agendas from the Western and the Soviet Union perspectives [9]. Therefore, ASEAN emphasized not only economic and societal but also transnational crime s and political transformations. In 2009, in Bali, Indonesia, they announced the project of creating an ASEAN Community. According to Furuoka, et.al. “It is very interesting to note that there is huge discrepancy among ASEAN member countries in terms of their population, total area and income” [6]. This table shows the Population and GDP (Gross Domestic Product) of ASEAN members in 2012 and in 2018.

The population of ASEAN when the ASEAN Community is applied in 2015, 633 million people. The Population will increase in 2030 to 717 million and in 2035 to 741 million people, a rate of 0.85% per annum.

Based on table above, even though, there are differences in population and GDP, ASEAN countries have an ambitious project to forge economic integration among member countries. Then, on 7 October 2003, the Declaration of ASEAN Concord II (Bali Concord II) in Bali, Indonesia was adopted by the ASEAN leaders to establish an ASEAN Community by 2020. The ASEAN Community has three pillars, namely political and security community, economic community and socio-cultural community (Jones,2008). The pillars is
important to strengthen to regional integration in Southeast Asia region to face an global challenges.

Table 1: Population and GDP of ASEAN countries in 2012.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Population (in millions)</th>
<th>GDP Nominal (in billions of US$)</th>
<th>GDP Nominal per capita (in US$)</th>
<th>GDP PPP (in billions of US$)</th>
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<th>Special, Pages: 75-79</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>260.1</td>
<td>851.0</td>
<td>3,256</td>
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<td>3.26</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Thailand</td>
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<td>460.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>78.6</td>
<td>12.2</td>
<td>12.2</td>
<td>1.22</td>
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Table 2: Population and GDP of ASEAN countries in 2018 estimates.

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Population Forecast for ASEAN Countries:
The ASEAN countries may now look forward with optimism for the creation of the ASEAN Community. However, according to Benny and Kamarulnizam that the ASEAN Community idea lacks one of the most crucial components that have brought about the success of other similar regional organizations such as the European Union (EU): the involvement of the general public, or, a people-to-people orientation. It seems that people within individual ASEAN countries have not yet fully grasped or been involved in the process of the building of the ASEAN Community. The larger issue is that the public in each ASEAN country may have its own perception, opinion and aspiration for the regional integration. The existence of the EU as what it is today and its success in economic, political and social integration has been obviously supported by the consensus and involvement of its general public [5].

Therefore, the idea of ASEAN Community, furthermore, the involvement policymakers and public are essential not just because they can accept this condition but they have to understand the vision and mission of regionalization community process. Another aspect in supporting the ASEAN Community is extensive study between policymakers and academicians such as the Model ASEAN Conference where the public especially students can understand and accept of the regional community idea.

Model ASEAN Conference in Increasing Student’s Knowledge on ASEAN COMMUNITY 2015:

The main aim of ASEAN Community is to maintain peace, stability and shared prosperity in the region through the partnership that closely intertwined and mutually reinforcing. The ASEAN leaders confirmed their strong commitment to accelerate the establishment of the ASEAN Community by 2015 at the 12th ASEAN Summit on 13th January 2007 in Cebu, the Philippines. They signed the Cebu Declaration on the Acceleration of an ASEAN Community by 2015. The ASCC (ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community) Blueprint was agreed by the ASEAN leader at the 13th ASEAN Summit held in Singapore on 20th November 2007. This agreement aimed to develop and promote the ASCC [1]. In promoting the ASEAN Community 2015, we need the involvement of students as an access to human development opportunities.

The Model ASEAN Conference (MAC) will enhance the understanding and life-long learning of student as a part of the human resource training, capacity building, encourage innovation and entrepreneurship, promote the use of English language, ICT and applied science and technology in socio-economic development activities. The figure below shows the activities of the Model ASEAN Conference at both school.


The figure above shows the students follow the instruction on how to join in the Model ASEAN Conference.

As ASEAN conference games, this programme promotes greater interaction and understanding among the youths in the region. Instructor describes about the establishment and organizational structure of ASEAN and the objectives ASEAN Community 2015. In general, the awareness of students of the Model ASEAN Conference was relatively high, and their awareness reflect their thorough understanding of the ASEAN Community 2015. About 96 per cent of students answered the question from the instructor about ASEAN’s organizational structure, ASEAN was founded in 1967 and the vision and mission of ASEAN Community, and 97 per cent students understood the simulation as an example of the Model ASEAN Conference.

The students took time to introduce their country. They also introduced and demonstrated their national language. The level of awareness appears to be different from one country (group) to another. By using simulation game showed that the students knew ASEAN Community better. There are several
reasons that could explain these findings. It can be argued that the general students are more interested to study about the issues of ASEAN. To further ascertain the level of understanding of students, one subsequent question is raised. To the question “is Indonesia can compete with the other countries especially Singapore and Malaysia?”, the majority of students answered Indonesia can compete in 2015 even though the table of GDP above shows the high differences each other. In general is interesting to note that most of the students perceived that the ASEAN Community 2015 is successful at Incorporating decent ASEAN principles in ASEAN culture becomes an integral part of ASEAN’s employment policy to achieve a forward-looking employment strategy.

Fig. 3: The Model ASEAN Conference at Senior High School of 1 (SMA 5) Maros. Source: Seniwati, et.al. 2014. Pelatihan ASEAN Conference sebagai Upaya Meningkatkan Pengetahuan Siswa Terhadap ASEAN Community 2015 di SMA 5 Makassar dan SMA 1 Maros. Penelitian dan Pengabdian Universitas Hasanuddin, p.16.

Conclusion:
From this programme, it can be concluded that there was a high level of a awareness and understanding of ASEAN on the students of senior high school. Most students claimed that they aware of vision and mission of ASEAN Community 2015, of the formation year of ASEAN such as the historical set-up, and of the structure and mode of operations of ASEAN as a regional organization. Moreover, they could estimated the Indonesian’s ability at ASEAN Community in 2015. Even though, the students show the different view, they argue that ASEAN has been effective for the peace and development of the region especially in conducting ASEAN Community 2015.

References
1. ASEAN Secretariat, 2009. ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint.